ACTIVATE

°SECONDARY-STUDENTS NEWSPAPER°

*3

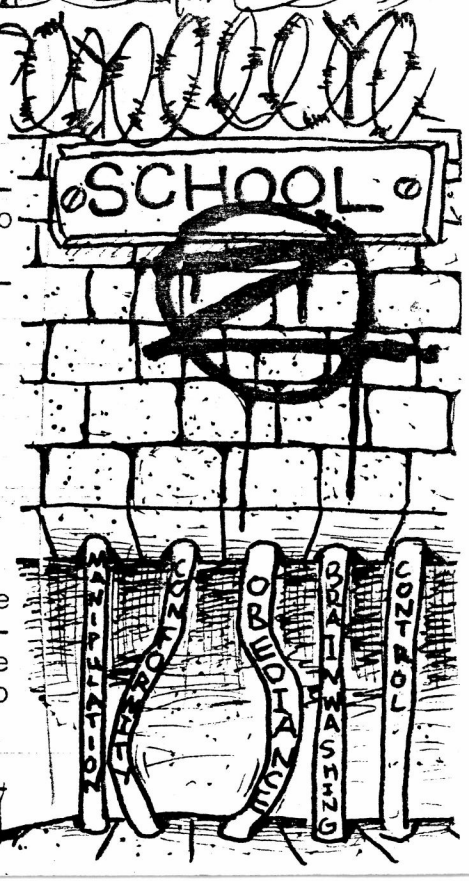
JULY 1988

Student LIBERATION

P.O BOX 509
Port Melbourne
Victoria 3207
Australia

Student liberation is a simple concept: students running their schools, deciding what they want to learn and how, and teachers acting not as authority figures but people who are there only to explain and assist in the students' learning. Ideally, you shouldn't be compelled to go to school, because no one knows what's good for you better than you do.

We spread this idea because it's we, the students, who have our ideas and understandings of the world shaped in school, it's we who are on the receiving end of whatever happens there, so shouldn't we be the ones who decide what we do there? Isn't it our right not to have our minds numbed at being powerless, bored and abused?



THE BIG PAYOFF !

Visions of Freedom splits the profits.

Listed below is the breakdown of monies to be distributed among anarchist activities throughout Australia out of the profits from the Visions of Freedom Conference. In deciding amounts, the collective took into account a number of factors including the amount requested, the clearness of the stated uses for the money and any assistance provided by each group or individual in making Visions of Freedom happen.

REQUEST RECEIVED FROM	REQUEST	ALLOTTED
1. Thea Swift Fund for Anarchists in Need.	not specified	
2. A Media Institute Debt Fund.	$1500	} $300
3. Anti-Election Conference (June)	$500	
4. Jura Books' Distribution plans.	$1000	
5. Rebel Worker	$1000	} $750
6. second anarchist media room.	$1000	
7. The Anarchist Newspaper.	$500	$500
8. Neighbourhood News(Brisbane).	$500	$150
9. Anarchist Black Cross (Brisbane).	$100	$175
10. Black Rose Books.	$500	$525
11. Holus Bolus (Brisbane)	$100	$100
12. Media Room Project.	$1000	$525
13. Pamphlet publishing (Brisbane).	$100	$100
14. National liberation scholarship idea.	$7000	$nil
15. technological 'connectivity' idea	$500	$nil
16. Lillian Geddes' pamphlet.	$500	$200
17. Coalition Against Police Violence video.	$500	$300
18. Ecofeminist w'shops with Koori women.	$500	}
19. Ecofeminist Actions Newsletter.	$200	} $375
20. Delegate to UN Conference on Women(Beijing).	$300	$nil
21. Bougainville Human Rights Report		$100
TOTAL VALUE OF DONATIONS:		$4000

Thanks go to all supporters of the Visions of Freedom Conference the success of which made the distribution of these funds possible.

The Visions Collective. April 95

News from Sydney...

With the coming to power of the Liberals in NSW, Metherall, the education minister there, wants to introduce such nasty items as corporal punishment, larger class sizes, compulsory maths, science and foreign language in year 12, and the power for police to arrest a student on school grounds for offensive language.

Not surprisingly, this has not been well received. A strike and rally were organized on July 1 by the School Students' Union. 10 000 secondary students attended the demo, plus other supporters. Some concerned people made a pamphlet to distribute on the day about the French uprising of 1968 and the role high school students played in it, in the hope of demonstrating that it is possible to fight for the education you want (some other examples of student resistance were given. You can write to Activate for a copy of the pamphlet - it's called "No ifs No buts"). The strikers had planned to march to Parliament House but were turned back by police(no resistance was offered to this, which must have been a real downer for quite a few people there, because a 10 000-strong crowd could quite easily have broken the police lines).

The march then proceeded to a park where boring speeches were given. One Young Socialist League speaker was met with chants of "Keep politics out of it!", and stood down. Everyone gradually dispersed as the speeches dragged on.

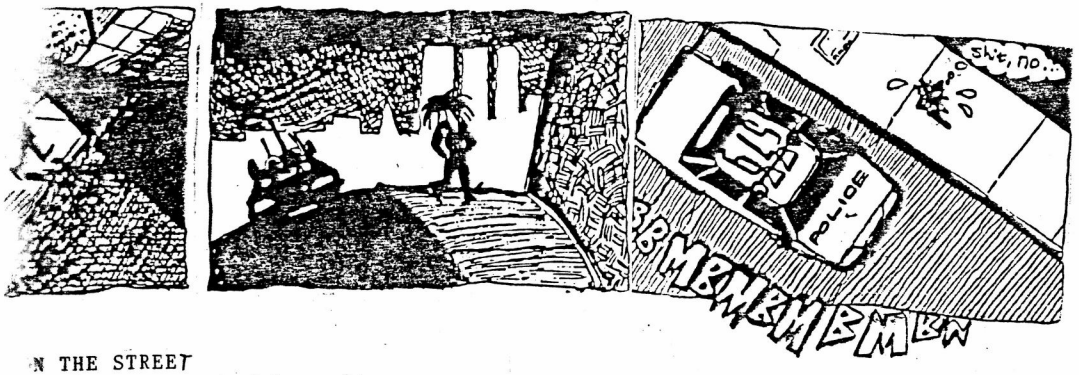
A comment I could make is that it was good that 10 000 students went on strike for the day and held the largest student demo ever in Australia. However, they failed to use their enormous potential to disrupt the daily operations of the Ministry of Education, Parliament House, etc etc. They could have ignored the authority of the cops and brought about a more militant day of action. A much more interesting(and productive) time could have been had by the strikers if they had followed their own initiative rather than the predetermined"plan for the day". Rather than sitting around in a park listening to "important people" drone on, they could have occupied the Ministry of Education, stormed Parliament House, visited local schools gathering what support they could, extended their demands beyond the rejection of Metherall's plans and claiming the right to a "secure future", to students' control of learning environments, <u>real democracy</u> in school. All that is needed for creative action is a bit of imagination. Future strike action is being planned, so it's not out of the question.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN ORGANISING SOMTHING A BIT MORE PRODUCTIVE THAN WHAT WENT ON IN SYDNEY, WRITE TO ACTIVATE.

POLICE POWERS UPDATE

the last issue of Activate, we
d an article on police powers,
ur rights etc., and because the
ictoria police have now been
granted their new powers, we
thought we'd better give an update.

Basically, the less you know
bout your legal rights, the more
ower the police can exercise over
u. Even if you do know what the
lice can do and can't do to you
often won't make any difference,
will do what they like, but
least you won't make the police's
any easier through your own
rance.



N THE STREET

When approached by police,
egally you do not have to tell them
nything(unless you're in a pub or
riving a car, in which case you
ave to give your name and address),
t often it's just unrealistic
o say nothing; it's logical that
xercising your rights aggrdvates
nd annoys police immensely at
times, and they can get rather
nasty, so it can be easier to give
them a name and address. Whether
it's your own or not is up to you
(it's against the law to give a
false name). If it's feasible, I
would advise not to give a real
one, because it's quite likely
that they keep them and it's not
a good idea to become known to
them. Remember, though, that
they may try to ascertain whether
the name and address you've given
them are real.

Basically, when approached by
police, you're pretty powerless.
(young people especially). Police are
usually lots bigger, and are able
to throw lots of charges at you
really easily. How you are treated
depends a lot on their mood, how
you look, and your attitude. No
matter how rude they are to you,
try and stay polite. Don't grovel
to them, but stay calm. Knowing
you feel threatened gives them a
wonderful feeling of satisfaction.

If the police try to take you to
the station(or even get you in
their car) ask what you've been
arrested for, because legally they
can't take you if they don't have
any thing to charge you with. But,
if you do walk away, it's possible
that the police may try to charge
you with resisting arrest(yes, there
are known cases of this happening).

AT THE POLICE STATION

If you are under 17, the police aren't meant to interview you without an independant adult person (over 18) present. Usually they'll let you contact someone(or they'd do it for you). Think about who you'd contact before you get to this situation. Parents seem like obvious choices but are often quite inappropriate as they tend to get hysterical and know no more than you about the legal procedures involved in an interview or whether the cops are sticking to the set procedure(I mean more subtle things than throwing phone books around). I know my parents were totally hopeless.

they start laying into you with a truncheon, and to remember that at any sign of weakness, they'll probably hit you harder to get out of you what you considered saying. On the other hand, if you've done nothing and are quite sure that some fast talking will prove your innocence and save you a bashing, then it could be a good idea to talk.

Remember, nothing you say is off the record. Casually chatting over coffee after an interview and admitting to smoking dope six months ago can and will get you charged.

NO I.D? WELL, YOURE IN BIG TROUBLE NOW LAD!
BETTER CHECK HIM OUT FOR ANY WEAPONS, DRUGS...
Rescue me...
FRUNCH
CRUCK
..ASSAULTING AN OFFICER OF THE LAW.. ..CONSPIRING TO BURGLE A...
THESE GUYS MUST HAVE HAD HARD CHILD HOODS
DONT MESS WITH ME YOU IM A

It's important you get someone you know, otherwise the police will often just get someone they like. You could get a lawyer by ringing Alphaline 419 7427.

Being questioned in the station, it's important to know what sort of approach you should be taking, and then stick to it. For instance, if you were picked up outside a vivisection lab with 50 rescued rats, then it's probably an extremely good idea to say nothing but "No comment" even if

If you are being held at the station and you are in serious trouble, make no statement until you've talked to a lawyer. (call Alphaline 419 7427 and they'll get a lawyer to you, for free.) Don't sign a statement unless you are happy that it is a correct account of what you've said, and isn t written misleadingly.

THE NEW POWERS.

Over the huge police powers debate there are two basic standing orders(the rules the police are meant to work by) that have been changed.

* It used to be that a person must be releasedor put on bail or taken to court within 6 hours of being held in custody. This has been changed to "within a reasonable time", which basically means that you can be held for as long as the police want to keep you.

* FINGERPRINTING.

For 17 or over: your fingerprints may be taken with "informed consent"./ Officially this means that you must be told why they are required, that you have the right to refuse, and that they can be used as evidence against you. In practice (from the mouth of a cop) it means they do it unless you protest, or (from the mouth of another cop):"I'll kick your fucking head in if you don't". Also officially if they breach these provisions in taking your fingerprints, they can't use them as evidence unless you agree or in exceptional circumstances.

For 10-16 years: you can only be fingerprinted by order of the Children's Court.

Children under 10 can't be fingerprinted.

THE P.C.A.

In the last issue of Activate the Police Complaints Authority was mentioned, as a body you could ring and complain to if you'd been bashed by the police. But it no longer exists because the police hated them and so did the Liberal Party and as soon as Steve Crabb became minister for police he made sure they were gotten rid of very quickly.

Hugh Selby, a really knowledgeable guy who was high up official member of the Police Complaints Authority predicted (when the authority was gotten rid of) that its abolition would probably lead to increased civil action against police (as is the case in England).

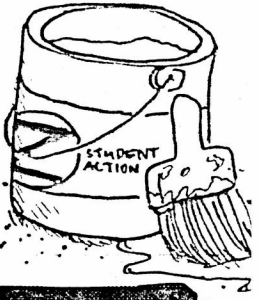
'Catch this you filth scum'.

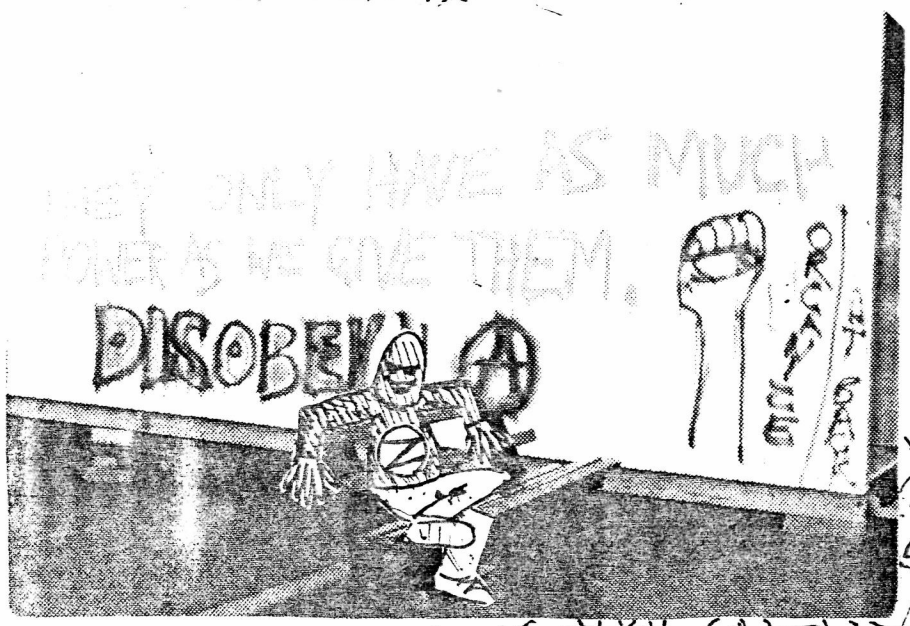
← PHOTO OF A SCENE IN ENGLAND. (TAKEN FROM "ATTACK ATTACK ATTACK ATTACK"

GRAFFITI NEWS

Mysterious grafitti has recently been appearing on schools around Melbourne. These samples, from Canterbury Girls' High, were the first that we heard about in time to photograph before they were washed off. The school has claimed that it cost $3000 to remove, and reports have it that the police were called in to question the students with funny hair cuts and to lecture the school.

Keep it up, whoever it is!





THIS SECTION NEEDS YOU

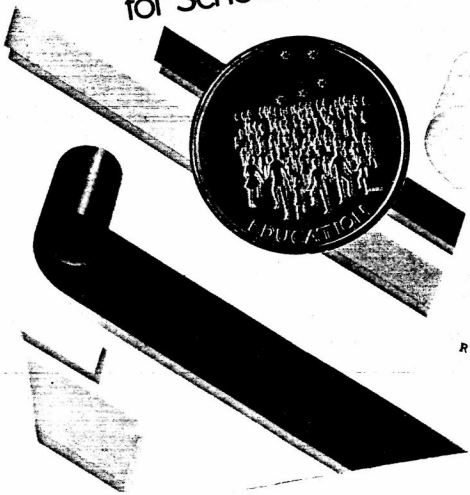
(so send all photos of studen

ATTACK THAT
WHICH OPPRESSES
YOU!
WE WILL BE FREE
support to continue.
STUDENT
LIBERATION
grafitti to Activate)

Bicentenial BULLCRAP

Australia
1788-1988

Bicentennial Memento for School Students



Dear Student of Australia

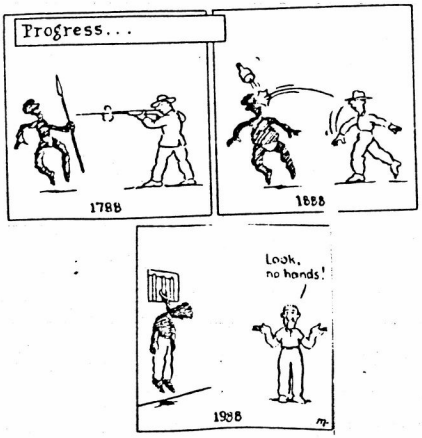
On 9 May 1988 Australia will celebrate the Opening of the new Parliament House in Canberra. This is an important event for Australia because it represents both its past and its future. It is in the future of Australia that you will play a most important role.

In conjunction with the Opening you will receive the Bicentennial Memento for School Students. I am delighted that you will be sharing such an important event with all the other school students in Australia.

The opening of the new Parliament House represents our commitment to maintain our nation as a proud and free democracy. When you receive your Memento, take a moment to think about the future you want for Australia. The future is in your hands.

R.J.L. Hawke

The students of Australia recently received these lovely Bicentennial medallions, and letters from Bob Hawke, so we decided it was a good opportunity to write about what a stupid wank the bicentennary celebrations are.



Picture this. Some very arrogant people come along and tell you that the land you are living on is their property, when you have always known that no-one can"own" the land, it is for everyone. Unfortunately, though, they have guns and you don't, so what they say goes. They proceed to kill your brothers, rape your sisters, enslave you and force a bible into your face. They steal your children and force you into poverty. For 200 years they continue the genocide, and try their hardest to annihilate your culture and give you a sub-human status. They fill your land with control, unhappiness, disease, addictions, pollution and exploitation. They divide you from the ordinary people which come or were forced to come to tyour country by manipulating their minds to make them think they are better than you.

Then they turn around and ask you to celebrate! Well what the fuck have we got to celebrate? 200 years of genocide and oppression. But it hasn't stopped. Since 1980, at least 98 Aboriginals have died in police custody (wherher they were murdered or commited suicide is irrelevant, their lives were either taken or made not worth living). Many blacks are victims of frequent police bashings. And Aboriginals aren't the only ones to cop the nasty end of government in Australia. Also ranking highly among the groups the police single out for harassment and bashings are the poor, the young, the homeless, in fact anyone they can get away with hassling. Everyday, we're powerless to make the decisions which affect us(who asked you if you wanted to goto school?). The rich amass their incredible fortunes while more and more people are living in poverty.

We've been told to strive for a secure job, a quiet life, a family. But where's the fun in that? The adventure? the passion???! We're bought off with little piddly con essions: SRC's in schools, wage rises in the workplace, consumerism, Coca Cola. But who wants bigger pieces of apple? LET'S TAKE THE WHOLE FUCKING TREE!!!! . . . .

...AND LET'S TAKE IT NOW!!

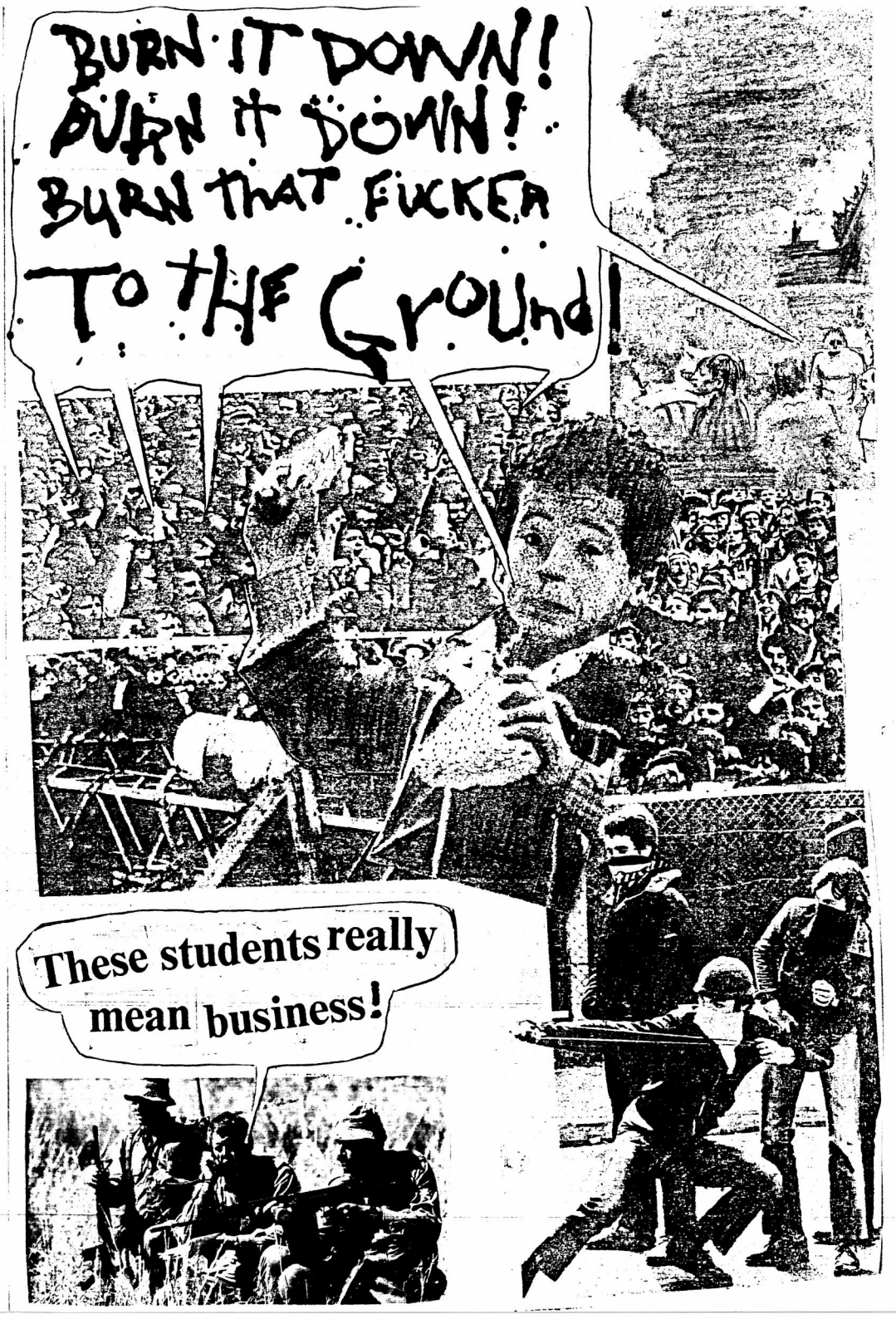
Her Majesty The Queen and His Royal Highness
The Duke of Edinburgh will be present

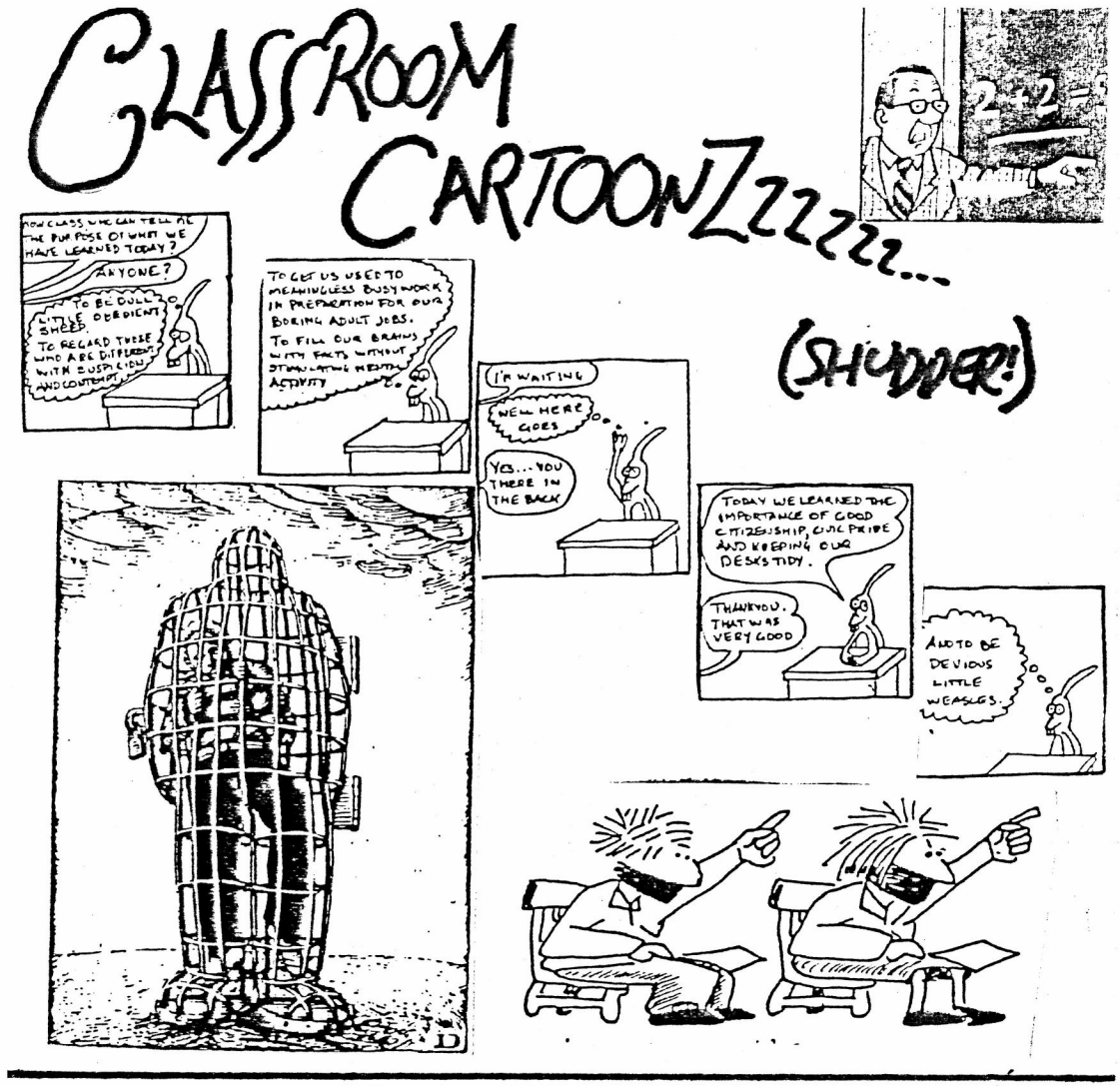
The Prime Minister and Mrs Hawke
request the pleasure of the company of

All caring people

at a Reception
for the burning of Parliament House

Dress: Dinner Jacket
Lounge Suit
Long Dress
Short Dress
Balaclavas may be worn


BURN IT DOWN!
BURN IT DOWN!
BURN THAT FUCKER
TO THE GROUND!
These students really mean business!


CLASSROOM CARTOONZZZZZ...
(SHUDDER!)
2+2=5
NOW CLASS WHO CAN TELL ME THE PURPOSE OF WHAT WE HAVE LEARNED TODAY?
ANYONE?
TO BE DULL WITTLE OBEDIENT SHEEP.
TO REGARD THOSE WHO ARE DIFFERENT WITH SUSPICION AND CONTEMPT.
TO GET US USED TO MEANINGLESS BUSYWORK IN PREPARATION FOR OUR BORING ADULT JOBS.
TO FILL OUR BRAINS WITH FACTS WITHOUT STIMULATING MENTAL ACTIVITY
I'M WAITING
WELL HERE GOES
YES... YOU THERE IN THE BACK
TODAY WE LEARNED THE IMPORTANCE OF GOOD CITIZENSHIP, CIVIC PRIDE AND KEEPING OUR DESKS TIDY.
THANK YOU. THAT WAS VERY GOOD
AND TO BE DEVIOUS LITTLE WEASELS.
D

Global ozone levels, which absorb harmful ultraviolet radiation from the sun before they reach the earth's surface, have been observed to be declining over the past decade. Chloroflurocarbons (used in refrigeration and air-conditioning, aerosol propellants and plastic forms) which rise into the stratosphere and destroy the ozone are to blame. In 1984 scientists discovered an alarming hole in the ozone layer over Antarcticaand the find has sparked worldwide concern, but mostly people that manufacture the terrible flurocarbons are avoiding guilt. All signatories to a protocol recently signed in Montreal, late last year, agreed to halve their production by 1999. Australia agreed to abide by the protocol. If any person would like to join the fight to stop destroying the ozone layer please write to :

Felecia Newton
4 potter St,
Black Rock 3187
victoria.

CAT@LYST

A COMMUNITY ACTIVIST BULLETIN BOARD, INTERNET ACCESS, AND DESKTOP PUBLISHING COLLECTIVE

community access tecknowledgy

email
catalyst@sysx.apana.org.au
phone 519 9194
modem 557 7043

Our home is Black Rose Anarchist Bookshop, 583A King St Newtown during shop opening hours, 11-6 weekdays and 12-5 Saturday.

We meet 7.30 Tuesday nights at the shop if you are interested in finding out more.

CAT, an electronic info centre

Some time ago a group of people came up with the idea of setting up an access media centre along the lines of a community radio or television station. A year of planning, learning and funraising later, the project has a new home and is ready for your input.

Aware that the gap between info rich and poor is widening, the project is about challenging and changing mainstream media culture. Established as an example of anarchy in action, CAT operates as a non-profit, non-hierarchical collective which aims to address issues of access, equity and sharing of teknowledge.
We're the public transport, pushbikes, and pedestrians on the information super hypeway. People friendly technology without the jargon.

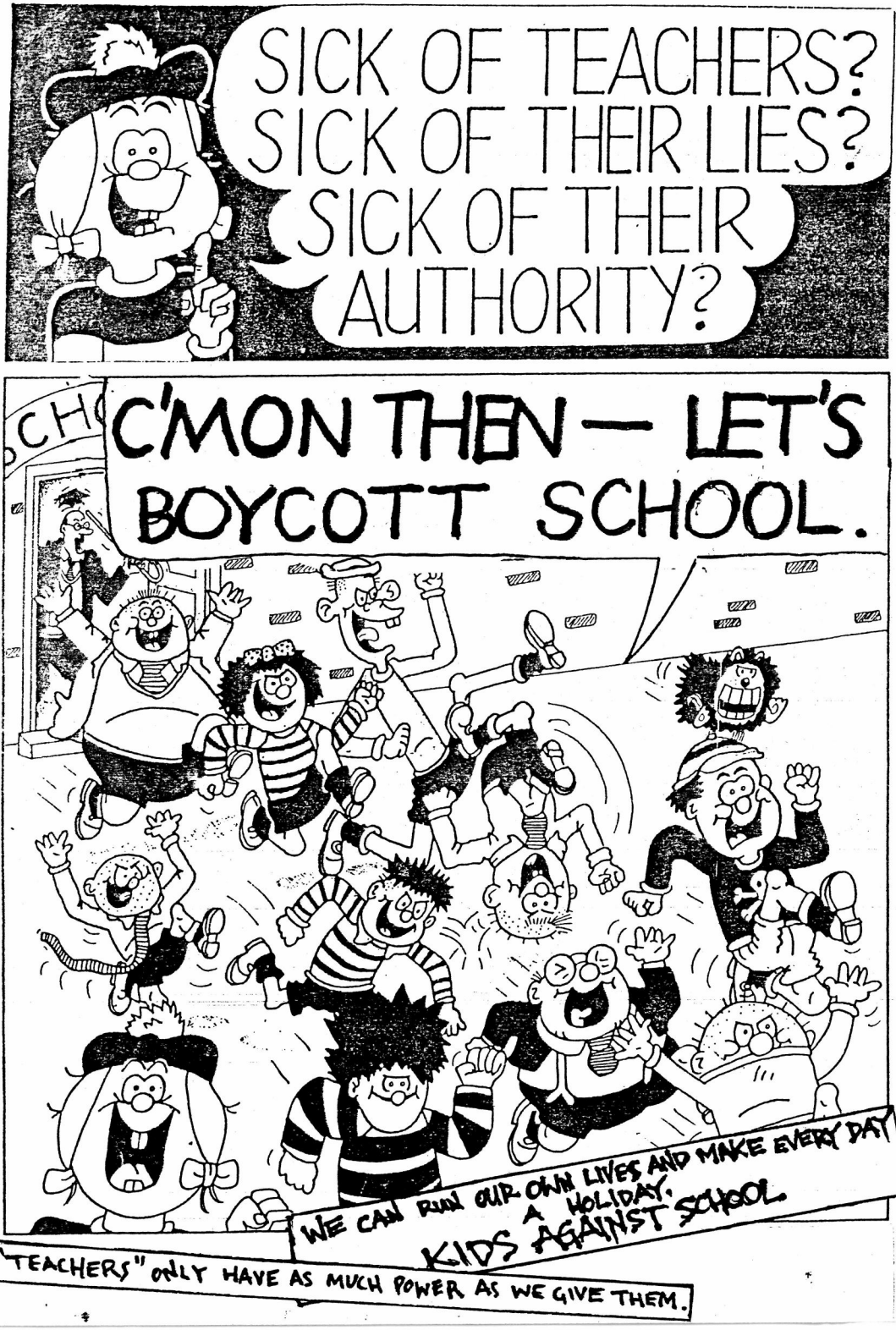
CAT is a totally independant, self funding, community resource. Donations of equipment, ca$h, and energy are what it runs on. The more help given to maintain and build it up, the better the service provided.
We'd also like to hear from community groups and individuals to find out what they want from an electronic info centre.

Desk top publishing.

Design and lay out posters, pamphlets, and books.

Catalyst, a community bulletin board.

*Internet e-mail & news * Calendar of events * Contact listing * Data base of issues, groups, campaigns and radical info.*


SICK OF TEACHERS?
SICK OF THEIR LIES?
SICK OF THEIR AUTHORITY?
C'MON THEN — LET'S BOYCOTT SCHOOL.
WE CAN RUN OUR OWN LIVES AND MAKE EVERY DAY A HOLIDAY.
KIDS AGAINST SCHOOL
"TEACHERS" ONLY HAVE AS MUCH POWER AS WE GIVE THEM.